

USSN 10/773,176
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Examiner Metzmaier

Amendments to the claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A solvent system for use in acidizing and cleaning up an oil or gas well in oil and gas operations, the solvent system comprising:
 - an alcohol that is water soluble;
 - an ester that is water and oil soluble;
 - an aqueous acid comprising water and acid, the acid being present in an amount at least 5% by weight of the solvent system;
 - and a solvent that is at least one of a ketone that is water and oil soluble and a cyclic ether that is water and oil soluble.
2. (Original) The solvent system of claim 1 in which the solvent is a ketone.
3. (Original) The solvent system of claim 1 in which the solvent comprises a C₃ – C₁₀ ketone.
4. (Original) The solvent system of claim 3 in which the solvent comprises methyl ethyl ketone.
5. (Currently amended) The solvent system of claim [[3]] 4 in which the alcohol is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system, the ester is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system and the methyl ethyl ketone is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.
6. (Original) The solvent system of claim 1 in which the alcohol is present in the amount of

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at least 5% by weight of the solvent system, the ester is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system and a ketone is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.

7. Cancelled.

8. (Currently amended) The solvent system of claim [[7]] 1 in which the aqueous acid is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.

9. (Currently amended) The solvent system of claim [[10]] 8 in which the acid is hydrochloric acid.

10. (Original) The solvent system of claim 6 in which the ester is a C₂ – C₁₀ ester.

11. (Original) The solvent system of claim 1 in which the solvent is a cyclic ether.

12. (Original) The solvent system of claim 11 in which the solvent comprises a C₃ – C₁₀ cyclic ether.

13. (Original) The solvent system of claim 12 in which the solvent comprises tetrahydrofuran.

14. (Original) The solvent system of claim 13 in which the alcohol is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system, the ester is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system and the tetrahydrofuran is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) The solvent system of claim [[15]] 14 in which the aqueous acid is

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present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.

17. (Original) The solvent system of claim 16 in which the acid is hydrochloric acid.

18-22. Cancelled.

23. (New) A method comprising using a solvent system to acidize and clean up an oil or gas well, the solvent system comprising:

an alcohol that is water soluble;

an ester that is water and oil soluble;

an aqueous acid comprising water and acid;

and a solvent that is at least one of a ketone that is water and oil soluble and a cyclic ether that is water and oil soluble.

24. (New) The method of claim 23 in which the acid is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.

25. (New) The method of claim 24 in which the solvent comprises a C₃ – C₁₀ ketone.

26. (New) The method of claim 25 in which the solvent comprises methyl ethyl ketone.

27. (New) The method of claim 26 in which the alcohol is present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system, the ester is a C₂ – C₁₀ ester present in the amount of at least 5% by weight of the solvent system and the methyl ethyl ketone is present in the amount of between 10% and 50% by weight of the solvent system.

28. (New) The method of claim 27 in which the acid is hydrochloric acid.

29. (New) The method of claim 23 in which the solvent comprises a C₃ – C₁₀ cyclic ether.